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220680US-0PCT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

FRANCOISE VINET ET AL

: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN

(Based on PCT/FR00/02702)

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: PROCESS AND DEVICE FOR

ANALYSING NUCLEIC ACIDS

FIXED ON A SUPPORT

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-14.13

Please add the following new claims:

(New) Characterization process for a nitrogenous base, a nucleic acid, or a nitrogenous base of a nucleic acid, fixed on a support, the said process consisting of characterizing the said nucleic acid or the said nitrogenous base without marking by a mirage effect method.

(New) Quantification process for a nitrogenous base, a nucleic acid, or a nitrogenous base of a nucleic acid, fixed on a support, the said process consisting of